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REFERENCE

DUNCAN McARTHUR PAPERS, III, JAN. 6, 1813 to Sept. 20, 1813, incl.

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REFERENCE

Duncan McArthur Papers, III, Library of Congress, War of 1812 Papers only.

Upper St. Dusky 6th. Jany 1813

Dear Sir,

Since my letter a few days ago to You, I have understood from Good authority that we will not leave this place for some time, for Detroit. I feel very much disposed to do Something for myself -- Your friendly disposition express'd in your favor to me, induces me to Say that I take the Liberty of Requesting of you to afford me Some Countenance, Money unfortunately I have as it were none but property, if Ever we again Reposses the Territory of Michigan: I flatter myself here. Sufficient to meet a Considersable Demand. -- Gnl. Harrison left this on the 28th ultimo & has been expected for Some days; Tlying report says a number of things; The time t e Genl. was Expected has long Since expired, and from tolerable authority I fear that the present Campaign will not ##### extend beyond the Rapids this Winter--

I mean to Continue here untill the arrival of Genl. Harrison into Camp, and imidiately go as far as chilicothy & do myself the pleasure of waiting on you -- Do my Good Sir write to me & Say what you would propose, or direct me to some Business that you migh[t] Consider worth your attention -- The Genl I am sure from his deportment is disposed to Save[?] me -- but at Same time will not Countenance my Carrying of, offensive weapons, this is according to the unfortunate Capitaulation of Detroit — that unfortunate 16th. of Augt. I can never forget -- Now my friend, do permit me to address you in this style Say what you would Recommend me to do under the present Stage of affairs -- I dislike a Solitary Life. I have never been accustomed to it -- You may be assured any thing that would Give me a triffling Competency at the present Crisis, would not only at this time be acknowledged, but never be Eradicated from my memory -- I do declair to you on my word of Honor that I feel very

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much disposed to do Something & beg of you as the only friend of my acquaintance now in this State to afford me your Countenance --

To give You my Ideas on the Subject of our intended Rout, I fear that we will not leave this for some time -- Suppose I was to Go on to some Place where I might do a little for myself. If through you may be of Singular Service to me -- By all means my Dear Sir do not expose any part of this letter to any Person whatever & particularly any insuations that I might have thrown with Respect to the disposition of our Camp -- I Wish You Say to me in your first letter what you would Recommend for me to do.

Adieu, Your friend & Humbl. Servt.

Robt. Forsyth

Colo. Duncan McArthur

425

427

(Copy)

Duplicate Fort George 18.[?] January 1813.

Sir

A long letter which I addressed to you on our Marine affairs for Lake Erie, will I hope, have reached you safely. As it becomes a matter of the greatest moment to gain as accurate information as possible of the preparations of the Enemy, as to building armed Vessels & Boats, I request you will be pleased to Select some intelligent Inhabitant in your vicinity, who would undertake to proceed down the border of Lake Erie as far as in his power towards Buffaloe, for the purpose of obtaining the information so essential to our plans, it would be his object to examine at all the Rivers & creeks what is going forward, It would require the greatest caution & circumspection as well as secrecy on the person chosen for this service. He should be one whose habits or profession would justify his assuming the character[?] of a person travelling on some matters of business, and to insure his attention to the objects on which he will be adviseable to agree with him for a sum to be paid him commensurate to the distance he may travel, & the information he may obtain. You will be pleased to communicate to me for the information of Major General Sheaffe the result of the Measure proposed.

I have the honor to be Sir Your Mt. obt. sevt.

Christo Myers

Dy Car[?]

acting QMG

Copies at the request of Genl McArthur 23 Apl 1813 J Mc the original forwarded to R Meigs PM Genl.

Colonel Procter / 41st Regiment/ &c &c &c Commander at Amherstburgh

428

Remarks on Capt J. W Bryson's Detachment Report. Jany 10, 1813

1st Regt Infy

1 Sergt
1 Corporal
2 Music
7 Privates
} for duty

1 Sergt
3 Privates
} Prisoners of War.

17th Regt Infy

37 Privates, Sick & well

4 Corporals
19 Privates
1 Music
} Prisoners of War

Total Prisoners of War

1 Sergt
4 Corporals
22 Privates
1 Music

6 Fit subject for discharge

J W Bryson

Capt. Commdg. Detacht

432

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington City, 18th January, 1813

GENERAL ORDERS.

The following officers of the army and militia of the United States, made prisoners of war at Detroit, Queenstown, and elsewhere, have been duly exchanged, for the officers, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, taken on board his Britannic Majesty's transport Samuel and Sarah, on thellth day of July, 1812, vix.: Brigadier General William Hull; Colonels Duncan M'Arthur, James Findley, and Lewis Cass; Lieutenant Colonels James Miller, John R. Fenwick, Winfield Scott, and John Christie; Major James Taylor; Captains Nathan Heald, John Whistler, Henry B. Brevvort, Josiah Snelling, Robert Lucas, Abraham F. Hull, Peter Oglevie, William King, Joel Cook, and Return B. Brown; First Lieutenant Charles Larrabee; Second Lieutenants James Palleba, and Daniel Hugunin; and each and all of the aforesaid officers are hereby declared exchanged, and as free to act against the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof, as if they had never been captured.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

T. H. Cushing

Adjutant General.

434

Asst. Adjt. Genls. Office

Cincinnati

22nd. Jany. 1813

Dr. Sir

I am directed by the Genl. to inform you, that all the Effective Recruits in your District are to marched without loss of time to seneca. The Govr. has been requested to furnish a sufficient guard for the Prisoners which will relieve the Det. now doing duty at that place.

Those soldiers who claim discharges, for having served the period for which they were enlisted, are not to dismissed the service, unless you have strong reasons to believe that their statement are correct. The officers to whom they respectively belong must be applied to, if there be any doubts as to the term of Enlistment. With Respect to Capt. Moore, you will make such as you may think proper.

Enclosed is a Roll of the Officers of Dift. cos. now doing duty at Sacketts Harbour, to whom you can apply for such information as may be requisite for the Discharge of those individuals

With Respect I remain &c

G Croghan

As. At. Adjt. Gen.

Copy

Cols. Campbell.

Army

437

Washington City Feby. 5th. 1813.

Genl. McArthur

I have the pleasure of stating to you the probability of my success in the object of my visit to this place. Mr. Brent informs me that in a the course of two or three weeks he concludes it will be in his power to furnish me with funds -- Though I fear not a sufficient sum to meet the necessary demands of your distract -- The money which I shall get will be in Treasury Notes which I rather fear will be not very pleasin to the Western people. Notes will be struck of a smaller sixe than heretofore. They will now be from the sixe of 3 to 1000 -- I will be in Chillicothe as soon as possible with the necessary means. I hope to make my return to that place pleasing to the Wester people who have just claims on the government

I have flattering prospects of success in obtaining the appointment desired. I hope to be made a Dist. P. Master -- if so my station will be Chillicothe.

I have the honor to be very Respectfully your Mo. Obt. Sert.

Chas. J. Clarkson

Asst. D. P. Master U.S.A.

Brigr. Genl. D. McArthur

Comg. 8th. Military Dist.

[Ed. There follows then a recruitment roll of various companies.]

448

Gentlemen,

I have received your joint letter of the 31st. Ultimo. If the alterations you propose making and which you think essential to the attainment of your object, be but nominal, there can be no objection to them. Call your Regts. if you will, the Volunteers of Ohio, on the 26th. & 27th. Regts. of the line. The appointments suggested, will be immediately made, but it is to be regretted that you had not previously assured yourselves that the persons named would serve. The last object mentioned by you will be attained, by appointing you (which is done by a seperate letter) superintendents of the Recruiting service within the State of Ohio.

I am Gentlemen very respectfully,

Your most Obedient servant

John Armstrong

War Dept. 5 April 1813.

Brigadier Generals McArthur and Cass.

Chilicothe. Ohio.

449

Head Quaeters

Camp Meigs 6th. April [May] 1813

Genl Orders

The General cannot pass by the opportunity which the events of yesterday afforded of expressing to the Troops his high sense of the distinguished Valor which they manifested in each of the three severe conflicts in which they were engaged. The attack made by the Indians upon the left flank was repelled by Capt. Nearings Compy. Major Alexander's Volunteers and the Kentucky Militia in the most gallant manner. Colo. Miller and Major Tod with the Detachment of the 19th. Regt. and Croghan's and Bradfords Company of the 17th. and Major Alexanders with the Volunteers attacked the enemies Batteries on the right flank, carried them, drove off a superior force of the enemy and Killed ### or took prisoners the greater part of the two best companies in the British service -- Before the attack was made on this side the ######## General had Ordered one on the Enemies Batteries on the Opposite Shore by the Kentucky Militia -- This was executed under the Orders of Colo. Dudley at the Head of about 600 men with great gallantry -- The four Batteries were stormed, all the guns but one spiked and every Object that the Genl. had intended effected -- It is truly painful to reflect that this Operation so eminently successful in the commencement should have been brought to an unfortunate issue by the temerity and disobedience of our Troops. The possessi## the Batteries and destroying the Canon was the sale Object of this enterprise and having done so the Troops should have returned to their Boats, which they could all have reached in safety. This however was not done -- They remained upon the ground scattered and

disordered, suffered a feint skirmishing to draw them into the woods beyond the Cover of our Batteries where they were surrounded by the enemy and the greater part made prisoners — Such are the terrible effects of disobedience and in attention and that fatal Confidence which is so apt to prevail with Militia upon a feint success -- Upon the whole however the events of yesterday were highly honourable to the American Arms and promises a most successful termination to the Seige -- We have within the lines more troops than are sufficient to man them -- a largernumber would be in the way -- we are provided with every necessary -- The General has ascertained, that the number of regular Troops with the enemy are really contemptible nine tenths of his force are Indians and Canadian Militia who are the worst in the world -- from an almost unparalled[?] fire from the Enemies Batteries for five days Continuance it is ascertained that he can do us little injury; His supplies of Provision must be soon exhausted -- nothing is necessary then but a little patience and fortitude on our pasts untill the arrival of those large reinforcements which are coming on -- The 24 U.S. Regt. of highly disciplined and one thousand strong from Fort Massac has been long on its march and must by this time be on this side of Cincinnatti, where it will be joined by the remaining moity of the Kentucky drafts, Colo Johnson's Regt. of Mounted Volunteers (one thousand strong) and all the 12 months and other Regular Troops which have been recruited within the 8th Military district —

Upon the whole the Troops may expect to see in a short time an army of their friends to the amount of at least 5000 Strong -- The Genl. will take another opportunity of expressing his sense, of the conduct of those individuals who distinguished themselves in the late actions as soon as he is better informed of their respective merits --

John O'Fallon

Acting Asst. Adjt. Genl.

450

Adjutant Generals Office

Washington City 10th April 1813

Sir

I have the honor to enclose letters of appointment for Colonel Simon Perkins, and Lieut Colonel George Paul of the 26th Regiment of Infantry, who are instructed to receive your Order, if they should accept their appointments; and I have to request you to give the necessary information and instructions to these Gentlemen in Relation to the organization and equipment of the said Regiment.

Majors Jenkinson Munson, Trimble and Morrison have not been assigned to Regiments, on a suggestion of General Cass, that this might be more satisfactorily done by you and himself, and I have to request your Joint Opinion on this subject. Major Morrison was appointed yesterday, and his letter is enclosed to General Cass, with that of Colonel Vanhorn of the 27th Regiment.

I am Sir very respectfully yr Obt Servt

T. H. Cushing

Adjt. Genl.

Brigr. Genl Duncan McArthur

Zanesville

Ohio

[Ed. Here follow a series of receipts of monies paid to McArthur for military services.]

461 -- Descriptive list of recruits.

462

Head Quarters, Camp Meigs

5th May 1813

Sir,

I am sorry to inform you of another disaster to the Kentucky troops, not indeed bearing any Comparison to that of the River Raisin in point of Killed and wounded, but exceeding it as to the number of prisoners. I had the honour to inform you in my letter of the 28th. Ult. that the British troops destined to besiege this place was then in view. On the succeeding night they broke ground upon the hights Opposite & on the following morning our Batteries Opened upon them, and continued a partial firing throughout that and the following day. On the first of May the enemy retur[n]ed it from two gun and one Mortar Battery, and on the 2nd from a third gun battery. On the night of the 3rd they passed a part of their troops to this side of the river and opened another gun and mortar Battery within 250 yards of our lines, they were soon however driven from that position and obliged to take one at a more respectful distance. On the 1st: 2nd & 3rd: Inst. the fire was most incessant and tremendous. 5 1/2 & 8 1/2 inch shells with 24 lb ball fell in showers in our camp and would have produced the most unfortunate effect but from the great pains & labour which had been bestowed in the erection of traverses which in a great degree shielded our camp from the former, for the latter there was no preventative but that of taking the Batteries about 12 Oclock last night an officer arrived in a boat from Gen Clay to inform me of his approach and that he could reach this place in about 2 hours. I immediately determined upon a general Sally and sent an officer to

Gen Clay directing him to land 800 Men some short distance above, to attack and carry the batteries, spike the cannon and distroy the artillery. The Genl. was unfortunately delayed longer than he expected in passing the Rapids, and the detachment destined to make the attack did not reach the landing until near 9 Oclock; this however did not prevent them from making the attempt and never was any thing more completely successful., the 4 batteries were immediately taken possession of and their defenders driven off and the cannon spiked. Here the work of our men was done But that confidence which always attends Militia when successful proved their ruin, although there was time sufficient to return to the Boats before a reinforcement arrived to the enemy, they remained upon the ground in spite of the repeated calls which we made across the river to bring them back. They suffered themselves to be amused and drawn into the woods by some faint skirmishing, whilst the British troops and an immense body of Indians were brought up; a Severe action then took place. The British immediately intercepted the retreat of our men to the plain on the river where they would have been under cover of our cannon -- but about 150 out of nearly 800 effected their escape to the Boats. When the Ballance of Gen Clays force made its appearance and attempted to land above the Garrison their flank was attacked by a large body of Indians. I immediately ordered out a Detachment, consisting of part of the 19th. US. Regt. about 100. twelve months voluntiers & some Militia. They however succeeded in driving the enemy entirely off. Pursuant to the plan which I had formed an attack was then made upon the Batteries on this side of the river, conducted by Colo Miller of the 19th. Rgt., with part of his Regt. The aforesaid Volunteers & a few Militia [illeg.] attack was also completely successful, the enemy were driven from their works. a number killed and two British officers and 41 privates brought

into Camp. This attack was intended to simultaneous with that on the other side and it was nearly so. Notwithstanding the severe loss we have sustained in the Kentucky Militia, the events of the day have been honourable to the American arms. The Detachment under Colo Miller Suffered very little and had the militia been contented with executing what they were ordered every object which I had contemplated would have been accomplished. I have only time to add that I am confident of my ability to defend this place until the expected large reenforcements arrive, and I am with great respect Sir your obt. Servt

(Copy) Wm Henry Harrison

(Signed).

You will pardon the inacuracy of this when I inform you that I write amidst a thousand interuptions. I will endeavour to transmit a more accurate account in a day or two, if the fort is not again surrounded by Indians, who have I believe at this moment all retired. I have reason to believe that the guns of the enemy were very imperfectly spiked.

Honble Jno. Armstrong

Secretary of War

468 - Descriptive list of recruits.

469 - Ibid.

470

General Orders

Adjt & Inspector Genls Office

Washington 20th May 1813

The proceedings of the General Court Martial instituted at Belle Fontaine on the 2nd and continued till the 22nd of March last (of which Lieut Colonel Nicholas of the 1st Regt. of Infantry was President) in the case of Captain Joseph Cross of the 1st Regt. of Artillery are approved. In these proceedings the Court find Captain Cross guilty of unofficer like conduct:

In being repeatedly intoxicated when on duty as officer of the day:

In being intoxicated sepeaterly in the presence of officers and soldiers:

In being absent without leave, from the morning of one day, to the morning of the next: and

In having expressed himself relatively to the orders of his superior officers, in a way injurious to subordination, and discipline -- and therefore sentence him to be dismissed the service.

By order

Cl. K. Gardner

As. Adj. Gen.

472 - Return of a recruiting party.

473 - Account of property damaged by the military.

474 - Abstract of provisions at Steubenville.

475 - Receipts for monies.

476 - Abstract of provisons issued at Steubenville.

482 - Report of a court martial. Preceding this are a number of muster rolls.

483

Adjutant & Insp. Genl Office

Washington 3. June 1813.

Sir,

The 24th. regiment commenced its march from Fort Massac, for Cleveland (O.) on the 5th Ap. agreably to orders through Gen. Cushing, of the 12th March ultimo. It halted at the springs, near Harrodsburgh (K.) until the 5th May.

I have the honor to be very respectfully

C. K. Gardner

As. Adj. Gen.

Major General Wm. H. Harrison

Cincinnati, (O.)

485 - Weekly return of infantyy.

488 - Ibid.

489

Head Quarters 8th Military District
Franklinton 11th June 1813.

General Orders,

At a General Court Martial ordered to convene at this place on the 10th Inst. of which Col. William P. Anderson is president; was tried, Daniel McIntosh a private of Capt. John A. Hodgers company 24th Infy. charged with Desertion from Rendezvous Knoxville Tennessee between the 8th & 12th of November 1813. To which the prosoner# objected to the Courts taking cognizance of his case, & saith that he was tried upon the same charge, & for the same offence by a general court martial w ich convened at Fort Massac in the Illinois Territory on 18th. March 1813, and that he is now under sentence of said court --

The court after hearing testimony are of opinion that they cannot take cognizance of the case of Daniel McIntosh, the said prisoner having been once tried for the same offence --

The court then proceeded to the trial of William Fish a private of Captain Hopkin's company W:G: Light Dragoons, charged with "Desertion" Specification 1st. That the said William Fish did desert the service of the United States on the march to Missinaway, at the camp near Dayton on, or about the 4th. December 1812. Specification 2nd. That the said Fish did bear off a Musket and Bayonet and Sword the property of the United States, and a horse saddle bridle & equipment, none of which has been restored to the service.

To which the prisoner pleaded guilty to the first charge and specification & not to the second specification so far as relates to the arms discharged to be taken --

The court find the prisoner William Fish guilty of the first charge and specification, and so much of the second specification as relates to bearing off the horse -- saddle &c. and not guilty of the other part of the second specification -- and they do sentence the prisoner William Fish to suffer death by being shot (two thirds of the members of the court concurring therein).

Was also tried Reaz Murphy a private of Capt. Hopkins's company united States light dragoons, charged with Desertion. Specifn. 1st. That the said Reaz Murphey did desert the service of the United States on the March to Mississinaway at the camp near the town of Dayton on or about the 4th. Decr. 1812.

Spec. 2nd. That said Reaz Murphy had previously deserted the service of the United States, while the Troop lay at Lebanon on the march to meet the detachment destined against Mississinway, at Zenia, under circumstances of the most muitinous and flagitious nature.

To which charge and Specification the prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The court find the prisoner Reaz Murphy guilty of the first and second specifications of the charge exhibited against him, so far as relates to the crime of desertion, and they do sentence the prisoner Reaz Murphy to be confined at some Military post, for the balance of the term of his enlistment, to have half of his pay stoped for the same period of time from the 4th. day of December 1812, the time of his desertion, to wear a Ball and chain for the term of three months, to be compelled during the whole period of his confinement to hard labor; and to be picketed for four minutes and to have his head shaved.

Was also tried Charles Monroe a private in Capt. Hopkins Compy. U.S. Dragoons -- arraigned upon the following charges, and specifications --

Charge 1st. Desertion.

Speci. That the said Monroe did on the march from the Rapids of the Maume from the Camp near the Town of Springfield did desert the Service of the United States, on or about the 12th. March 1813.

Charge 2nd. Mutiny

Spec. In having spoken of his immediate commanding Officer Capt. Hopkins mutinously, in the presence of the soldierly, between the 20th. and last of March 1813, on the march from Upper Sandusky and at Camp near Lebanon.

The Prisoner Charles Monroe pleaded guilty to the first charge and specification, and not guilty of the second charge and specification --

The Court sentence the Prisoner Charles Monroe a private of Capt. Hopkins Troop of Lt Dragoons, guilty of the first and second charges and specifications and sentence him to be confined for the balance of the term of his enlistment at some military post; to have half of his pay stopped for the same period of time, to wear a ball and chain for the term of three months, to be compelled during the whole period of Confinement to hard labor, and to be picketed for four minutes and to have his head shaved --

The General approves the sentences of the Court Martial above mentioned upon William Fish of Reaz Murphy Daniel Sullivan Thomas Quarles William Lewes & Clenicut[?] Nance & directs that the punishment of Fish Sullivan Quarles Lewis & Nance be inflicted tomorrow Evg. at 6 oClock. at such place as Colo Anderson may designate to the 24th Regt. & all the recruits in Town will be assembled for the occasion under their respective officers.

The General directs the Court to assemble again at 8 oClock tomorrow# & reconsider the cases of Daniel McIntosh & Charles Monroe. He is persuaded that a little reflection will render the court to proceed with the trial of the former of these men. It is a principle universally admitted by all the writers on Martial law that the sentence of a Court Martial is not [illeg.] until it has been decided upon by the General or president or other officer ordering the court & consequently the right also of the officer ordering the Court to disapprove of its sentence & dein it a revision of it is qqually undesirable. Had therefore the Prisoner McIntosh been tried in the first instance by the Court Martial of which Colo. Anderson is President it is presumable that there could be no doubt of the power of this General to disapprove the proceedings ## & order a new trial & with how much more propriety then can it be done in the present instance when the former Court which tried McIntosh was ordered by an inferior officer who if he ever had the power of ordering the Court has not now the power of deciding upon its proceedings.

The General as appears of the sentence passed upon Charles [illeg.] because the P[illeg.p is not adequate to the guilt -- In three other instances the Court have passed the Sentence of Death for desertion only in addition to which [illeg.] the Honible [illeg] of the [illeg.] take the life of his captain was proved upon Monroe.

The Received of the 24th Regt. is [illeg.] until tomorrow Evg. at 3 oClock

493 - Return of recruits.

498.

June 23 — 1813

PROCEEDINGS of a General Court Martial convened at Franklinton in the state of Ohio, on wednesday the 23d. June 1813, by virtue of the following order.

"Head Quarters

Franklinton June 23d. 1813.

"General Orders!

A General Court Martial will convene at this place at 9 o'clock A.M. consisting of nine members, for the trial of such prisoners, as may be brought before it.

Colonel Saml. Wells — President.

Major Croghan		Major Trimble
Captn. Adair		Capns. Hunter
Swearingen	Members	Puthoff
Herron		Lieut. Johnston

Lieut. Wm. O. Winston Judge Advocate

Robt. Butler Actng Asst. Ajt. Genl."

June 23 1813.

The Court met, pursuant to the foregoing order.

Present

Colo. Saml. Wells — President.

Major Croghan		Major Trimble
Captns. Adair	Members	Captns. Hunter
Swearingen		Puthoff
Herron		Lieut. Johnston

Lt. Wm. O. Winston Jud. Advocate

The Court having been first duly sworn proceeded to the trial of Saml. Abbott a Serjeant in Captn. Puthoff's Company, 26th. Regt. U. States Infy. late of Capt. Lucas's company who being previously asked if he had any objection to any of the members of the Court, and replying in the negative, was arraigned upon the following charges & specifications exhibited against him by Lt. Wm. Beard of the 26th. Regt. U.S. Inf.

Ch. 1. Murder

Spec. That he did on the 16th. June 1813, on the march near Portsmouth bayonet Jno. Offner a private of the 26th. Regt. of which wound the said Offner died.

Ch. 2d. Unsoldierly Conudct.

Spec. In using his gun & bayonet upon the said Jno. Offner at the time & place aofresaid & committing violence upon him."

To which charges & specifications the prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty"

Moody Kimbal a witness for the prosecution a private of Capt Lucas's company being first duly sworn says that he was on guard with the Prisoner, at the time stated in the charge; Jno. Offner the deceased, was formed behind, the prisoner being the Serjt. of the rear Guard, undertook to bring sd. Offner along, Offner after coming some distance refused to go farther and turned upon the prisoner, saying at the time he would not go farther unless he pleased; the Prisoner put the bayonet of his musket against sd. Offner, immediately under the left breast; he held him in that position about half a minute when he took it from him with the ##### bayonet bloody three or four inches: The decd. Offner had compained the day previously of being sick, and was unable to march;

The sd. Offner was not drunk when he was stabbed, but a little lively, he had been drinking during the morning; it occurred about twelve o'Clock in the day. He was within two or three paces of the priconer at the time he cannot speak certainly as to the manner of the prisoners bayoneting the decd. whether he resisted the touch of the Bahonet or whether the prisoner used any effort toward pushing it in him -- Offner was wounded severely & left on the road at a house he known nothing as to his death.

The witness on being cross examined is under the impression that it was the same day that the decd. rode in the waggons, as they commenced the march from Portsmouth & Offner was stabbed in about five miles: he has known Prisoner about two years, he is a sober man & was sober at the time.

Lt. Beard a witness for the prosecution being first duly sworn says that the prisoner was Sergn. of the rear guard when they commenced their march from Portsmouth, that he had instructions to bring up the rear; Offner was drunk in the morning when they started, & was put in the waggon; Offner was taken out o the waggon & after marching a little way he stopped behind; he saw the Prisr. stop for him; he halted for the rear a short time, he was then informed of the acident of the prisoners having bayonetted Offner, he went to him & found the bayonet had penetrated three or four Inches in the left breast of the sd. Offner he thinks the wound mortal; he knows Offner, he is a refractory obstinate man.

Richd. Stevens a private of Capt. Lucas's company a witness for the prosecution being sworn says that he was on Guard, when Offner the man stabbed having fa len in the rear, wasmarching under charge of the prisoner; Offner requested to go aside on a necessary occasion; after going

aside for a short time, the prisoner called to him, when he came out, when about to commence the march, Offner refused to go, saying he would not go until he was ready; the prisoner requested him to go, & did not seem in a passion He did not observe them again until after Offner was stabbed; Offner had been drunk in the morning & rode in the waggon; & was a little intoxicated at the time, but not too much so, to march: He has known theprisoner for seven or eight years; he is a moderate peaceable good kind of a man.

Jno. McKee a private of Capt. Lucas's company a witns. for the prosecution being first duly sworn says that he was one of the rear Guard at the time the prisoner was Serjt. Offner laged behind, he went aside for a while Offner returned, & refused to go; he was then sitting down; the prisoner pricked him in the thigh with the bayonet; Offner then rose & walked about fifty years; the prisoner behind him, when he turned around & refused to go & Jawed the prisoner; Abbott told him 'twas best for him to go on he at length placed his bayonet against Offner who stood firm, & after hold it against him about half a minute, still persuading him to go on, he removed the bayonet & Offner was badly wounded, he does not think the bayonet entered him more than one Inch from the blodd that was on it: the prisoner informed him that he had previous to his ### seeing it wiped the blood from the Bayonet.

When the prisoner pricked Offner on the thigh the first time, he does not believe he broke the skin, At the time Offner was bayoneted the prisoner held his gun at a charge.

The Court being ordered to be cleared & the whole of the proceedings read over by the Judge Advocate; ######## pronounced the following

<u>Sentence</u> The Court after mature deliberation find the prisoner Serjt.

Saml. Abbott Not Guilty of the first and second charges and the speification to the first charge, and guilty of the specification of the second charge "in using his gun & bayonet upon John Offner & committing violente upon him" but are of opinion he did not intend to use it improperly and therefore acquit him.

And then the Court Adjourned without day.

Saml. Wells

Coln. 17th[?] U. S. Infy.

President

Attest

Wm. O. Winston ph. Lt.

24th. Infy. & Jud. Advocate.

505. Muster roll.

508. Office of Commissary General of Prisoners.

These are to certify, that Colonel Duncan Mc. Arthur, of the Militia of the United States, who, having been a Prisoner of war, to the Government of Great Britain, was paroled, has been duly exchanged, and so declared by the Government of the United States; and that the said Duncan McArthur, is as free to act in any military capacity, as he may have been, before he was so made a Prisoner.

Given at Washington under my hand and seal of office this first day of July. A. D. 1813

E. Mason

Commissary General of Prisoners.

510. Head Quarters Lower Sandusky

2nd July 1813

Sir,

I reached Fort Meigs on the 28th Ultimo in the evg with a select detachment of the 24th Regt. making forced marches through the black swamp, of from 20 to 25 miles per day, the road being nearly half leg deep upon an average -- I found no enemy and having dispatched Col Johnson to the River raisin to obtain information & that which he procured induced me to believe that Fort Meigs was in no danger of an attack I set off for this place with an escort -- (which consisted of about 50 when I first left the rapids but were reduced to less than 20 when I got in) in the hope of meeting Col Balls squadron and with it to find out and destroy about 100 Indians which passed the river raisin on sunday last -- for this place -- Unfortunately they had armed and made a stroke the day before yesterday killing at a farm House just below this place 4 men a woman & two children, they retreated in the direction of Fort Meigs and with my usual good lock I missed meeting with them -- We heard their firing and could not have been more than a mile and an half from them -- I directed Col. Johnson to follow me with his whole command -- he has six or seven hundred men and will be able should he meet with the Indians to give a good account of them.

I shall set out from hence tomorrow for Cleveland which is the destination also of Ball's dragoons -- they have not yet arrived but will be here some time to day.

(signed) Wm. Henry Harrison

Major Bartlet

Dy. Q. M— G.

511 Head Quarters

Lower Sandusky

2nd. July 1813

Dear Sir

It was my intention to have had an arrangement of the officers of the 25th. Regt. similar to that you purpose in your letter of the 26th Ultimo — In the placing the officers to the Companies the recommendation of Major Trimble and Capt. Puthuff governed a single instance only excepted and that was 1st. Lt. McFarland of Moores Cy. for 2nd. Lt. Brown of the same. McFarland must remain but all the rest may be changed so as to correspond with your Original intention —

The explanation you ask for I proceed to give -- I wrote to the Secy. of War on the 5th. Ulo. stating it as my opinion that the 26th. Regt. could not be recruited in this state and recommending that all the Vacant Commissions of Field Officers and those of the platoon officers which had not Complied with the stipulation which I presumed had been made w th them to procure a certain number of recruits should be bestowed in Kenty. and the recruiting Basiness commenced in that State — In Answer to it the Secretary of War authorises me to dispose of the Commissions as I proposed — Being obliged to come up to Fort Meigs and as you have had the disposition of the Commissions in the first instances I requested you to dispose of the vacant ones in the manner above suggested — Viz to qualified person of the state of Kentucky from whose influence it might be expected the men would be raised — I used the expression "Commissions which are or may be made vacant by officers not getting the Compliment of men" — Because I understand from Genl. Cass that his appointments had

been made in that way and I supposed that some of your might have that condition [illeg.] -- Information received since I wrote to the Secy of War has induced me to believe that the additional number of recruits wanted for the 26th Regt. cannot be Obtained in Kentucky I leave therefore to your Judgement to act in the whole affair as you may think proper -- Could not one or two companies be obtained from the Kanawa Salt Works -- There is a Major Jesse Bovar there who engaged a Company some time ago as 12 Months Volunteers -- If he will accept a Commission and there is one vacant to give him -- He will get a Compy in ten days --

Major Bartlett writes me that you have ordered all the Clothing which is expected at Chilacothe to be sent to this place -- In the present state of the Roads it will cost five times as much to send it on as it will in six or eight weeks -- I wish you therefore to give directions for sending on that part of it only which is required for the men of the 27th Regt. that have been enlisted in the Connecticut Reserve -- and such as may be wanted to complete the Detachment which lately marched from Franklinton under Major Croghan with their Summer allowance -- The other Troops can be Clothed at Chilocothe Franklinton, or Delaware -- But should Genl Cass have sent the Companies of the 28th that were to Rendezvous at Zanesville to upper Sandusky -- without passing through either of the above mentioned places then the Clothing for them also must be sent to Upper Sandusky --

Give what directions you please about the Potawatime Prisoner, he should be treated humanly and fed at the expense of the U States;

On my arrival at Fort Meigs I found Colo Johnsons mounted Regt. there where it had been for several days — The Colo. received a letter, from Genl. Clay, at Fort Winchester that hastened him down to Fort Meigs while he was pressuring for an Expedition (agreeably to my orders some time ago) against Brownstown — Not finding Genl Clay in possession of any farther information than was communicated in his letter of the 20th Ulo. I directed Colo. Johnson to select a Detachment from his mounted men to go to the River Raison for the purpose of procuring information — The Colo. commanded the party and returned the day before yesterday bringing with him two Canadians one a British subject the other a citizen of the Territory. Of the many of the Inhabitants of that settlement whom the Colo. visitied and conversed with was Colo. Narvarre all of whom ##### were pursuaded that neither the British nor Indians had recieved any late accessions of force — Colo. Navarre informed the Colo. that 100. Ottawas passed the river Raison on sunday last on their way to this place to take scalps, to defeat which object I unluckily arrived here with a detachment of mounted men too late.

I am yr. friend

Wm. Henry Harrison

Brigr. Genl. Duncan McArthur

U. S. Army —

515. Head Quarters Cincinnati 2nd. July. 1713

Genl. Orders.

A Genl. Court Martial will sit tomorrow at 10 Clock at Captn. Ramsays Qrs. for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it to Court of five members Captn. Ramsay president Lt. Talliaferro Judge advocate Majer Todd will do the duty as Asst. Adjt. Genl. until further[?] [illeg.]

517. Muster Rolls

523/

Cleveland, County of

Cuyhaga, July 7th.

1813.

I have been acquainted with James Abbot of Detroit for thirteen years past, and have paid but little attention to his principals as a citizen of the United States until this two years past, particularly a short time before and after thd declaration of War, and for some time prev ous to that, I habe seen a certain man named William Hands, High Sheriff in his Britanic Majesty's privonce Canada Sandwich at divers times attend his James Abbott's office at the opening of the mail, and since the delcaration of War & while our army was laying on Canada, I have observed James & Sa uel Abbott ride down to a French Ferry house, which is about two miles from Detroit and opposite Sandwich, stop for some time, and at the same time his three Sisters and Mother was in Sandwich, their Husbands was officers in Malden; and the morning of the Surrender went in company with Francis Baby in search of property that was plundered from him; and said he would take as much as he lost by Hull's band of robbers, and proceeded in this manner through every citizens house taking more or less of their most valuable property: he was generally suspected by the citizens of being disaffected to the Government of the United States: His conduct in the company of British subjects & American Citizens was marked by contempt for the latter & his general deportment and conversation indicated a preference to the former.

Signed Richd. Smyth

State of Ohio

Cuyahoga County

Sworn and subscribed to before me a Justice of the peace of said county at Cleaveland, this 7th. day of July 1813.

Signed George Wallace, Justice peace

Taken in our presence, Cleveland July 7th. 1813.

signed. Thy, Jessup — Major

Wm. O. Winston Lt.

524. To the Honorable Members of the Grand Jury of the Territory of Michigan, now in Session at the city of Detroit,

Gentlemen,

Having been informed, that Richard Smyth, Esquire, has stated to your Honorable Body, that he could prove, that the deposition taken by him at Cleveland, against me, on the 7th. day of July 1813 contained nothing but facts; I beg leave therefore to state, that the information he has given you is incorrect, and I shall demonstrate to you Gentlemen, that it contains nothing but a multiplicity of false, base and malicious representations, and in order to verify my words, permit me to observe as follows.

First, -- As it relates to William Hands, High Sheriff in his Britannic Majesty's province of Upper Canada.

I state as a positive and absolute fact, that the sd. William Hands nor no other British Subject ever was in my office at the opening of a Mail; either prior or subsequent to the declaration of War. Mr. Hands like many other British subjects in company with our Citizens previous to the declaration of War, has attended on the outside of my office, on the

public highway, on Mail days: this I could not prohibit: he has as much right, at that period, to be there, as any other; and here let me remark, that before the declaration of War, British subjects were resident in almost every part of our Union and was it not as natural for them to correspond with each other as other classes of people? Yes. The United States did not forbid it: They were permittedt to send their letters by mail, like ourselves chargeable with no higher rates of postage; and I feel confident in saying, and appeal to the highest characters in our Territory for its correctness; that at that time, it was the wish of our General Government, for their Citizens, to be on good terms, with all Foreign powers, more particularly, those in our neighbourhood. Could I then say to Mr. Hands, or any other British subject standing in the street, Begone No Gentlemen, I knew my duty better.

Second. As to Samuel Abbott and myself riding down to a French Ferry house. This charge scarcely deserves notice, but if Mr. Smyth means to insinuate, that our ride was for some criminal purpose; it is like all the rest of his purious narration; and will be fully answered, I make no doubt, by my brother Sameul.

3rdly As it relates to Francis Baby. This charge is so palpable, and can be so easily set aside, that I wish you only to summons, every Head of a family resident in the city of Detroit, on the day of the Capitulation, and hear what they will say on the subject. I venture to say, that not one will corroborate his statement. —

The only house Mr. Baby requested me to accompany him to, was Mr. Smyth's; and that was, for the express purpose of being introduced to Quarter Master

General James Taylor, then boarding at Mr. Smyth's. The General was not at home when we called; but the moment Mr. Baby entered his room, he recognized one of his Carpets to be on the floor, which can be verified by the General.

4thly. and lastly. — As it respects my conduct to British Subjects and American Citizens: It speaks for itself; and I flatter myself that I shall never be under the disagreeable necessity of calling on Mr. Smyth to teach me elegance of manners.

Now Gentlemen, where are all Mr. Smyth's facts? Gone! Astonishing! No Gentlemen, not astonishing; for slander originating in envy — nurtured by malice — brought forth in corruption will always finish the same way.

Mr. Smyth's original deposition, together with all the others taken for and against me were forwarded to the General Post-Office, shortly after my trial.

I close Gentlemen in soliciting but one favor, and that is, should your Honorable Body think proper to burden yourselves with an investigation of the subject, I beg leave to be present at the examination of the witnesses; as I have been, and shall always be ready to rebut these charges, or any other than can be exhibited against me.

With very great consideration, I have the Honor to be, Gentlemen, Your obedt. Servt.

James Abbott.

Detroit 16 October 1814.

526. Portsmouth July 19th. 1813.

Sir

you will See from the enclosed Return that I am not so Successfull in this Recruiting Business, as I flattered Myself in Chillicothe -- but Sir those two that I have Returnd, to the Col. are Men that I do boast of, the Serjeant in Perticular who is a Young man of Education and Character, and I do flatter myself he w ll be of infinate Service to me in the Recruiting Service -- I do purpose to Send him to Chillicothe with a Recruit that is too turbulent on my hands -- at which time I hope the Col. will furnish the young man with a Serjeants Swerd and Appuletts -- at his Return I mean to Send him, with the Col. Leave[?] to the forks of Big Sandy in Floyd County -- I have not further to write more than a long Judge Dischrrged one of my Recruits -- James Cochran who was Discharged together with his father Andrew Cochran, did Carr away from this place some public Clothing, I applyd to a Justice of the peace for a Warrant but was informed I Could not Receve the Cloathing from them -- I would be happy to have t e Rascal brought to Justice; Cochran lives 12 Miles from Chillicothe, if the Col. thinks, propper to proceate[?] for further information he will apply to Mr. McCoy (Merct) Chillicothe as Respects their place of Residence

I have the honor to be Col. Campbell, Hm Set

Hugh May

Ensn 19 Regt U.S. Infy.

PS I flatter myself to do great Business at the Next Court of Muster in this place -- the 12 Months Recruiting progresses but Slow

No. ___. Return of recruiting.

528. Head Quarters

Lower Sandusky

July 22nd 1813

Dear Sir

The Enemy have again attacked Fort Meigs — The commenced their Operations against it yesterday — come on as soon as possible and bring on all the Troops you can collect Write to the Governour and get him to turn out as many Militia as possible -- My force will not be sufficient for any thing but defensive operations — Unless I get a large reinforcement of Militia.

Yours

Willm. Henry Harrison

Brigar. Genl McArthur

530. ff. Receipts.

531. Return of clothing.

532. Accouts of moneys spent on recruitment.

534. Return of a detachment.

535. Chillicothe July 24th. 1813

Sir

I this moment recd. a letter from Genl. Harrison and also one to your excellency which I took the liberty of opening and have forwarded it with this by express.

I am engaged in calling out the militia of the second Division in mass giving those who wish to take horses liberty to do so, and those who do not, can follow on, on foot, the men will at least have notice by the time we can hear from you. you will be pleasd to sanction or reject so much of my orders as you may think proper, and let me hear from you by express.

with due# respect yours

Duncan McArthur

M Genl. A.D. O. M.

537. Return of men.

537b. Portsmouth July 26th. 1813

Sir,

I Recd. your Order to Send my Recruits to Chillicothe -- I Send them on by Serjeant Rheam, I wish the Col. to furnish the Serjeant with what Cloathing he may want together with a Serjt. Sword -- he is a Youhg man that I think will be of infinate Service to me in the Recruiting Business -- an Express has brought Orders last Eavening to B.H. Lucas to Order out the whole of the Militia under his Command -- I flatter myself to engage a few of the boys -- you may expect to see the Recruits Sent from this place in Chillicothe on thursday or friday Next

I have the honor to be Yours Respectfully

Hugh May

Ensign 19th Regt. U.S. Infy.

Col. B. Campbell

539. Recruitment return.

541. Return.

543. Recruitment return.

544. Adjutant & Insp Gens Office

Washington 28th. July 1813

Sir,

You will please, as soon as practicable, to furnish this office with a list of the officers appd. in the 26th. regiment of Infantry — in the order in w ich they are to rank, in each grade — with such suggestions of your own, and such advise of the Field Officers, as you may think necessary —

They will be commissioned, &o rank from the same day — except those last appointed.

By order

I am, very resp ctfully

C. R. Gardner,

As. Adj. Gen

Brig. Gen. Duncan McArthur

Chilicothe

545. ff. Recruitment returns.

551. Col. Thomas B Vnhorn [Aug. 5, 1813.]

You will please to order a court martial for to try Ensign William Gutndge of the 26th. Regiment United States Infantry on the following

charges exhibited against him (agreeably to notice given him on the 5th Day of August 1813 at Urbana by

Christopher Wood Capt

26th Regt U.S. Infantry

Charge 1st. For Disobedience of Orders

Specification 1st.

For Reguseing to make Returns, and Report himself while stationed at Try and Staunton in the Months of May and June being furnished with and specially Directed to make out returns and forward to Urbana weekly.

Specification 2nd --

For Leaving his posts at Troy and Staunton contrary to orders and going to Piqua and there behaving himself in a Disorderly Manner.

Charge 2nd -- For Unofficer like & ungentlemanly conduct For Getting Drunk in the Month of June and walking the streets of Troy with his Sword Drawn and Putting at Defience both civil and Military laws -- Threatening to put to Death the first officer that would attempt to take him when a civil process was isued against for his tavery expences.

Specn. 2d --

For Leaving his post without leave and going on the 15th July to the house of the Widow Mason and there in a wanton and Ruffion like manner gitting Drunk Quareling and fighting with some of her harvest labourers without Provication.

Specn. 3rd

For Going to a house of worship on the 18th Day of July and there behaveing in a Disorderly and Riotous Ma ner Disturbing the endeavering to prevent the worship of God and to Destroy the Harmony of the congregation

and after preaching was over and the congregation was about to Dispurse Did in a shameful Manner beat with a club Mr. Geo Sargent the Preacher, without provication.

Specn. 4th

For putting at Defience the officers of Justice when a process was issued by the civel authority against him for Assaulting and beating Mr. Sargent the Preacher and Disturbing the peace and harmoney of the congregation when in the act of Divine worship

Specifn. 5th.

For gettigg Drunk at Piqua in the Month of June and abusing several Publick officers particular Major Hukill of the U.S. Army --

Specifn 6th

For Being Generaly Drunk and Rendering himself incapeble of performing his Duty --

You will please to have summoned as witnesses Goe Seargent of Champaign County Col. Anderson late of Michigan Major Hukill of the U.D. stmy, Isaac Mason of Champaign County, Lieutenats McLane[?] and Meldrusn of the 26th Reg U S Infantry

Christopher Wood

Capt 26th. Regt. U.S. Infy

$$$ 554. ff. Returns.

559. Head Quarters Seneca Town

28th August 1813

Dear Sir,

If the Fort which has been cut off from the old work at Fort Meigs cannot be completed in the manner which I wishes without wearing down

the Garrison with fatigue, we must content ourselves with having it as well as secured as circumstances will permit. Have all the sotres removed into it as sped ly as possible and every thing prepared for a forward movement. I presume that you will have a number of the Store Houses put up -- The old ones can be removed very easily -- I send you 40 head of cattle from here and have sent 20 Indians in pursuit of the others and directed them to arive there to Fort Meigs — Let each of those Indians have a blanket from the public stores — The names of the Indians are to be taken down and forwarded to Mr. Stickney as the Blankets are to be charged to the Indians —

I shall send round more boats, but in the mean time send on those you have with the sick and proportionate Surgical Aid —

Let me have immediately a return of the Commissary Stores and Ammunition --

I am your friend#

Willm. Henry Harrison

Genl. Duncan McArthur

Comg. Fort Meigs.

561.ff. Returns.

562. Head Quarters Seneca Town 30th Augt 1813.

Dear Sir.

If you cannot (as I am sure you cannot* level ### all the old works about the new fort, confine your exertions to pick of them as are most likely to do injury.

I will send some more boats round immediately to bring off the sick. There has been such a consumption of fixed ammunition at Fort Meigs, as is at once alarming and astonishing -- No more of it must be used but in case of necessity, if your guards have their prices loaded, they must load with loose ball, and powder, and every day the catrdige boxes of the men must be examined and they be made to account for every cartridge. I urge your strict attention to this subject. Mr. Hawkins writes that he will be out of Cartridge paper immediately; as soon as it is all consumed, send on to this place as expeditiously as possible every man who has been accustomed to make cartridges. They must come by land. for the Rapids is out -- Send them off as soon as you relieve them.

Send round Crandall, the man confined on suspicion of being a spy, with the first boats -- The property he has in his possession belongs to one Cummins, (or some such person) who committed it to his care, and went on to Cleveland to procure a further supply, of goods: Upon his return he was taken by the Enemy Appoint a board of officers to discover the situation and ascertain the ownership of this property, and have it taken care of, unless it should appear that Crandall has a right to it.

I shall have some boats sent out this evening or in the morning.

I have before written to you on the subject of making the aspect[?] of the Fort such as time and the situation of your men will permit.

I am your friend

Willm. Henry Harrison

Brigd. Genl

Duncan McArthur

Fort Meigs

564. Descriptive list of a soldier.

565. U. S. Lawrence at Anchor
off North Bass Island Augt. 31st. 1812 [3]

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the rect. of your letter of the 28th. Inst. together with the Seamen they are a great acquisition and will be very usefull — The information given by the frenchman agrees with the observations we made off Malden — I shall get under weigh in an hour to proceed off that place again — Since you left me I have been seriously indisposed so much so as to have been a great part of the time confined to my birth -- I am now much better

In the hope of soon having the pleasure of seeing you.

I am Sir Very Respectfully Your Obedt. Servt.

O. H. Perry

Brigr. Genl. Duncan McArthur
Comg. at Fort Meigs

567. Head Quarters Seneca Towns
1st Septr. 1813

Dear Sir,

I received this moment your letter of the 30th Ultimo, that to Genl Cass of the same date has been submitted — How the flour that you mention came to be thrown near the Fort instead of being put in the River where it would have dissolved and been taken off, is most exteaordinary. however it appeares to me very evident from your description of it to Genl Cass that it will produce some fatal maladys unless it is removed or destroyed or the troops are removed -- it is therefore left to your option to ######

remove the Troops immediately to some position further down the River and then erect a small post capable of containing the Stores or of maintaining the present post and endeavour to use some effectual means for destroying the nuisance -- Act as you think best for the public service and either follow the dictates of your own judgement or take the advice of Genl Clay and the field officers -- If you move your position send down to the place you may choose and have some small block houses thrown up to protect you whilst you are erecting the work -- a stockade with two strong Block houses will answer every purpose -- and some store Houses of light timber -- I give you full latitude to act as to the subordinate arrangements in this case -- the Clothing is ##### sent round to you -- You can use the boats that have gone round for any purpose you please -- do not remove the heavy Artillery and provisions to the new post until it is finished and not more of the light than may be sufficient to protect you whilst erecting it.

Your friend

Willm. Henry Harrison

Brigr. Genl

Duncan McArthur

U. S. Army --

P.S. If some of the Regements should not have a sufficiency of clothing those that have a surplus must loan to others -- enough is coming on for all --

I wrote to you to send on two pair Bullet molds --

569. Head Quarters Seneca Town

4th Sept. 1813

Dear Sir

It is impossible that at this distance I can as well judge of what parts of the old works ought to be removed as yourself and Capt. Gratiot; do with them as you think best -- I send this evening from L Sandusky a boat with more clothing amongst which is that for Capt Cushings Compy of Artillery — The Hogsheads were directed to Colo. Miller but distinguished from the Infantry clothing by the letter A. —

Your friend

Willm Henry Harrison

P.S. I have just been informed that a Major of the Pensylva. Militia that is now Coming on from Cleveland says that if he can get a Captaincy in the Regular Service he will turn out 100 Men who will inlist in half an hour provided[/] they can get their full bounty

Brigr Genl

Duncan McArthur

U.S. Army

What vacancies are there in the 26th Shall I be safe in raising 2 companies out of the Militia -- I must borrow the money from the Qr. Master for the Bounties? When shall it be for to reimburse him?

I wish Colo. Huntington to retire immediately - tell him that the Py. Master Genl. says he has not protested his bills. Yrs. W H H

571. Seneca Septr. 10th. 1813

Dear sir,

Accompanying this I forward to you a Supporter, wherein you will see

a very extraordinary statement published by the officers of the militia lately stationed at Upper Sandusky. I really do not understand what they mean. Gov Meigs is undoubtedly at the bottom of all and I fear to accomplish some hidden sinister views.

I propose addressing to him a very plain letter and if you view the subject as I do, I will thank you to write him another, both of them if necessary to be laid before the publick. These militia being discharged has certainly excited a very great clamour in the state raised and increased by a designing junta. For these men to complain of being disbharged is really extraordinary. When we accompanied Gen. Harrison to U. Sandusky, I understand from the Gov. or his family, that 2000 men could easily be releaved, to partidipate of necessary in the final effort of the campaign. In the conversation, which took place, in our presence believe me Gov Meigs and the General, I heard not a word respecting these men being retained for any less time than six months. You and I doubted, as they were called out for a temporary purpose, whether it could be done. But I distinctly recollect that Gov. Meigs stated to me his regret, that you should say any thing upon the subject, as for his part he did not doubt either the legality or the practicability of it. The first time I ever heard that Pretence[?] of service extended -- only until the 20th of Sept. was at or immediately preceding the arrival of Brush & Couch to this Camp. I think you and ~~[illeg.]~~ & at U. Sandusky thought it would be expedient to retain the number, which was retained. But would we have done so, had we known the tenure by which their services was held. In God's name, of what use could that number have been for that time. Before we could possibly cross

their terms of service would expire, and we both know that in such a situation not one man in twenty under the most imperious necessity would remain.

There certainly is a plot to endeavour to scatter the seeds of disunion in this Army. The Genl. has recently been cautioned to beware of you and me. This he has told me. From what unhallowed quarter it comes we can only conjecture. It has made no impression upon the Genl, and how little it ought to make can only be known to you and me. The great leading measures pursued by the Genl. since we joined him, we fully [illeg.] With respect to them I am determined to bend my fate to his. If he falls, I fall. Nothing more excites my detestation than such attempts from such men. I could say more, but I have no more time nor paper. I think we had better both write to Gov Meigs & let him know, that the publick mind is not thus to be misled with respect to a transaction so well known to us.

With sincere esteem Ever yours

Lew Cass.

573

U. S. Schoor. Ariel Put in Bay

Sepr. 11th 1813.

4. oclock P.M.

Dear Sir

I have this moment recd. your letter by Lieut. Martin and have great pleasure in answer to your inquiry in informing you the arms of the U.S. have been completely successfull. The whole of the enemies

force consisting of 2 ships. 2 Brigs. 1 Schoor. & I sloop, & probably from 4. to 500 men prisoners. have surrendered to us. -- they had 9 guns. and ### were probably from one to two hundred men superior to us. the Laurence lost 84. in killed & wounded.

Yours in great haste

O. H. Perry

Genl McArthur

I hope soon to see you --

575

Camp Meigs Septr 12th 1813.

My Dear Wife

I had bearly time by last nights express mail, to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of the 2nd & 7th Inst. My anxious mind was indeed much relieved to find that there was yet a hope of seeing you. Nothing could have given me so much pleasure as to have returned home before the Campaign set out, and when I left home I certainly expected to have returned to my Dear wife and family ######### ere this. But I have been kept really busy since I joined the army. so much so, that there has been no possible means of leaving it. The army is expected to move on in a very few days and we have been making preparations for it ever since I came to camp. Since my arrival at this place we have built a new Fort and distroyed the old one, which has taken a vast of labour. The command of so many men has been extremely laborious and fatiguing; from day light in the morning until 9 oclock at night, there is perhaps not five minutes at any one time, but what there is a call, or application

a

of some kind. Since my recovery from the Rheumatism I have enjoyed tolarable helth.

From information recd. from some friendly Indians who were up at Brown's town on the 10th. Inst. stealing horses from the inhabitants or hostile Indians we are informed that our Fleet, and that of the British, had a long and severe engagement which commenced at 12 oclock and continued until late in the night -- we have not heard the result -- much depends on the success of our fleet -- if it has beaten that of the enemy all will be well -- I sent a Boat with fifteen men late last night down the river to the Lake, which is 18 or 20 miles, in hopes ofobtaining information from the fleet, but they have not yet returned.

Whatever may be the result of the action betwixt the fleets; I expect to leave this in a few days with the most of the troops -- The Ague and fever is very prevelent here. There are but few deaths for the number of men. --

I am much surprized that you do not hear from Brither James, he has been ordered to join the Northwestern army some time since. Col Smith who commands the Rifle Regiment was at Sencac a month ago, and has gone to meet the troops which James commands. I inclose you Forest Micken's receipt for one hundred and fifty dollars which I paid on his account, you will charge him on the Book with the 150$ and file away the receipt, The amount which I have paid for him first and last is very considerable, but we will no doubt settle with ease should we ever meet.

I am extremely sorry that there should be such a misunderstanding between our militia which lately marched to Sandusky, and Genl Harrison.

I fear there are some unworthy designing Characters at the bottom of this quarrel and that it is intended to injure the present Campaign. Those people who did themselves and the state of Ohio so much honor, by turning out; will I fear loss the most of their credit, by railing out at the commander in chief of the North Western army at a moment when the troops are about to march on the Campaign -- I think an impartial world will say, that if those resolution makers are not to accompany the army, they ought not to attempt to discourage those who are.

I am sorry to hear the Helen would on any account leave you in your sickness, more espetially after the caution which I gave. I fear should her and I live, that she is to be a heart sore to me. I shall certainly alter my Will as it relates to her, if she does not alter her conduct.

I cannot think that she had your approbation to leave you in your sickness, and if she had, it shews that she had neither affection nor prudence to do so.

I hope to be again in Canada before the answer to this will find me. I shall however, if in life, be with the North Western army, and I trust you will not fail to write to me for my anxious mind will ever fest on every word from your pen which will inform me of your helth and that of my Dear family.

your affectionate

Duncan McArthur

N.B. The following I copy from a paragraph of a letter I this day recd. from Genl. Harrison dated -- Lower Sandusky Septr. 12th. 1813

We have obtained a glorious naval victory, Commodore Perry lies at the Islands with the whole of the British fleet in his possession. The action was hard & a number Killed on our side.

Septr. 13th. 1813

577.

Portage River

Sept. 15th. 1813

Dear Sir,

We shall want most probably one of the smallest travelling forges which are at Meigs -- you will have brought -- it will be light & easily transported -- do not let it escape your recollection

yr frd.

Willm. Henry Harrison

Lieut Martin with his party will load such of the Boats and Canoes as he can man, or work, and come down by water. the Brigade will march by land. and meet him near the mouth of the river

579.

Mouth of Portage River

Sept. 15th. 1813

Dear Sir

I am so desirous of getting to the opposite side of the Lake as soon as possible that I am determined to take none of the artillery from Fort Meigs -- the five eighteen pounder carriages must however come & one or two twelve pound carriages -- all the fixed ammunition for cannon

& muskets except a small supply of the former for the garrison & about thirty rounds of musket Cartridges for the Garrison -- as they will have a plenty of ball & powder this quantity will be sufficient -- the flints also in (illeg.) be sent excepting a sufficiency for the Garrison -- None of the unfixed ammunition will be wanted -- But all the salted provision & as much flour & biscuits as you can possibly bring with the means of transport you have -- Three of our vessels will set out today & will go as high up in the Miami as they can get -- they will be there boarded by your boats as above directed -- As soon as it is done you will come off with all the regular troops -- I shall send you in the course of the day as many boats as we can spare -- If the boats & vessels cannot take all the troops & their baggage they must move down by land -- Hurry on then, my friend, as soon as possible. If you do not come on immediately I must leave you -- I calculate that it will take you but one day to embark your troops stores & baggage -- if necessary you must work all night -- Leave the command of the garrison with the senior officer of the Kentucky Militia that remains & send on to Lower Sandusky about thirty men (Militia) under a Captain to take charge of that post -- Fort Meigs and Sandusky will both be relieved by Ohio Militia -- Direct Colo Johnston if he has come on (or leave orders if he has not arrived) to wait at Fort Meigs for orders -- I have a seperate Job for him to execute -- Come on for Gods sake as soon as possible

yr frd.

Willm Henry Harrison

Brig. Genl. McArthur

581.

Head Quarters Portage River.

17th. Septr. 1813

Dear Sir

Your two letters of yesterday reached me this moment. Where my dear friend should I wish you to come but to this place where I supposed you would arrive before I left it Put in bay which is the General Redezvous is within sight of this place & you cannot get there without passing along this shore.

The boats that I expected to send you were detained yesterday by high winds & have not arrived. You must therefore do the best you can & come along the shore with all the men that you cannot put in the Bessels boats and Perogues, but I should suppose you have enough craft to bring them all by watere-

I write to Colo. Johnson, send on the letter to him -- If he does not take care of himself he will be attackd. by the enemy He must remain under the walls of the Fort.

When I wrote the order to you to come on with the regular troops only I was in possession of no information that would authorise a belief that the Kentucky Militia at Fort Meigs would agree to go on with ### us. Your Letters and those of Genl. Clay & Majr. Hawkins all united in opinion that they would not It is now I fear too late, but if you have not set out & can find the means of bringing them on they may all come, but eighty capable of garrison duty, which must be left at Fort Meigs. If you

have not set out you may leave half of the fixed musket ammunition and bring no more flour than about twenty thousand rations

Your friend

Willm Henry Harrison

Brigr. Genl. McArthur

The bearer must proceed to Fort Meigswith the letter to Colo Johnson

583.

Camp Meigs Septr.17th. 1813

Sir,

You will consider yourself under arrest for mutinous conduct at Camp Meigs on the 17th day of Septr. 1813.

Specification, On Doctr. McMillan's being ordered to remain at Camp Meigs aforesaid, to attend the sic, he the said Doctr. tendered his resignation to me, which I refused to accept. on which you steped up and in a mutinous manner observed to the Doctr that he would lose his life before he would stay behind at such a time, or words to that effect.

your sword will remain in the possession of Major Butter A Adjt Genl. you will proced to the post at lower Senaca Town and wait for further orders.

Duncan McArthur

Brigr. Genl. U.S. Ay

Col. Will. E. Boswell --

of the 10th. Regt. KM.

584.

Head Quarters

Portage river 20th. Sept. 1813

9 Oclock AM

Dear Sir

The regular troops are all off & some of the militia. The gun boats that are with you had better at once put to the Islands of Put in bay & if the wind does not rise the boats which you have can take that direction also rather than come by this place which is a little out of the way -- I shall probably set out in a couple of Hours -- As I do not know your situation as to the number of boats you have I can give you no other directions but all our boats will be immediately sent back from the bay.

The boats that were missing have all got safe in --

Your friend.

Willm Henry Harrison

Brigd. Genl

D McArthur

End of vol. III

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